MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

SECOND SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

20th to 22nd, 24th and 26th to 29th March and 2nd to 6th April 1951.

Volume X (Nos. 1–13).

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 26th March 1951.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVA-SHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Basic salary for language pandits.

* 990 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister on the floor of the House on 12th August 1950 to question No. 55, any basic salary has been fixed for the language pandits ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Regional language pandits and Hindi pandits get the same salary as other professors ; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) No ; but the Government have decided that the pandits who have the same qualifications as those prescribed for Assistant Lecturers or Assistant Professors should be given the scale of pay fixed for Assistant Lecturers or Assistant Professors."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know, Sir, whether the salaries of some of the Hindi Pandits have been reduced on the ground that the periods have been reduced and as a result they are not having sufficient work in the schools? If so, whether the Government have any proposal to redress their grievances? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" This question relates to Professors and Lecturers and so, it refers to Colleges and not to schools. It may be possible that particular number of hours of work are stipulated for pandits to receive their full salary. Anyhow, I shall look into the matter."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are not actively considering the question of increasing the number of hours for teaching of Hindi in colleges and schools? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I submit it does not arise out of this question."

Minimum marks for passing Hindi in High School classes.

* 995 *Q.*—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have prescribed any minimum marks for passing in Hindi in High School classes; and

(*b*) if so, what it is?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" May I know, Sir, what proficiency a student will attain if he has not to secure a minimum number of marks, and whether there will be any incentive for him to study Hindi? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I wish, my hon. Friend reads the Madras Educational Rules, wherein he will see that the attainment of proficiency in any subject by a student and the fixing of the minimum number of marks in any subject is all the work of the headmaster. Government have nothing to do with it."

SRI B. S. MURTHY :—" May I know whether the Government have given any general directions at least with regard to the holding of examinations, etc., and if so, what is the percentage of marks that has been fixed for a pass in that examination? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Government cannot do it. It is for the headmaster to decide, in classes other than the School Final Class, the minimum number of marks for each subject that is taught."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that since there is no minimum number of marks fixed for Hindi, students are not taking any interest in the study of Hindi, and if so, may I know what the Government propose to do to make them study Hindi? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" We shall certainly try to impress upon headmasters the need to keep up a standard in Hindi to the extent possible."

11-30 a.m. SRI A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the students have to pass an examination in Hindi as in any other subject or whether it is enough if they simply study it? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the hon. Member's question is whether Hindi is a compulsory subject."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I have already said that it is not a compulsory subject."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH :—" Since no examination is held in the Hindi subject for promotion in the high schools of this State and Hindi is practically neglected, are not the Government Educational Rules the cause of this neglect? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not think the Government Rules are the cause. If my hon. Friend thinks that they are the cause, I shall see how far the rules can be changed to see that the proper standard is maintained."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the feeling in the minds of Hindi lovers that the non-insistence upon securing minimum marks in Hindi in the high school course shows that the Government are not very keen about the acquisition of knowledge of Hindi by South Indians? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is the wrong and false feeling created by the so-called Hindi lovers that has been the cause of all the trouble."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Is it not the policy of the Government to keep Hindi only as an optional and not a compulsory subject? I think the Government only want that they and the other Hindi lovers should do propaganda for the study of Hindi by the people."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The policy of the Government is that as far as possible all the students should learn Hindi. But we have not made Hindi a compulsory subject."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR :—" Are the Government aware that most of the high schools in South Arcot district have not appointed Hindi pandits and, if so, what steps the Government propose to take? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Every high school is bound to appoint a Hindi pandit. I shall call for information and see that Hindi teachers are appointed in every school."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR :—" Now that the political feelings against Hindi have subsided for some time past, will the Government make Hindi a compulsory subject, so that we can popularise the language and not place the countrymen of our parts at a disadvantage compared with those in the rest of India? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not concede that political opinion was against Hindi. In fact, the political opinion was definitely in favour of Hindi. Some people, who cannot understand things correctly, might have been opposed to it. I shall certainly consider the suggestion to further popularise Hindi."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether Hindi students have to attend the Hindi classes compulsorily or whether they can abstain from attending and wander about? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The students have to attend Hindi classes as compulsorily as they attend the classes in the compulsory subjects."

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Sri L. N. Gopalaswami :—" In answer to my question, the Hon. Minister said that the fixation of minimum marks was left to the respective schools. May I ask whether the fixation of minimum mark alone is left to the school or whether the choice of holding or not holding the examination also is left to the discretion of the school? "

The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon :—" Under the Madras Educational Rules, it is for the Headmaster to decide, in respect of all classes other than the School Final Class, the subjects in which there should be and the subjects in which there need not be examinations."

Distribution of power drills to various districts.

* 996 Q.—Sri S. Nagappa (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) how many power drills are available with the Government at present;

(b) how many have been allotted to North Arcot district during the current year; and

(c) to what districts the rest are proposed to be allotted?

The Hon. Sri C. Perumalsami Reddi :—" (a) Twenty-nine.

" (b) One power drill has been working in the North Arcot district since 1949. No additional drill is allotted to this district in the current year.

" (c) A statement [a] showing the districts where the remaining drills are working is placed on the table of the House."

Sri S. Nagappa :—" The statement laid on the table shows that only 3 drills are working in Kurnool district. In view of the water scarcity and the rocky nature of the soil there, will the Government consider the desirability of providing at least one drill for each taluk? "

The Hon. Sri C. Perumalsami Reddi :—" There is only one application from Kurnool."

Raja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad :—" In view of the avowed intention of the Government to increase the number of wells, will the Government order for more power drills and, if an order has been placed already, what is the number of power drills ordered for? Since most of the districts have got only one power drill—very few districts have got more than one—does the Hon. Minister realize that the supply is hopelessly inadequate? "

The Hon. Sri C. Perumalsami Reddi :—" We have placed an indent for 12 power drills. We are expecting them shortly."

Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that with the aid of power drills in the Palar Basin

[a] Printed as Appendix on page 400 infra.

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JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" In view of the fact that there is a sufficient quantity of sugar available in the country, particularly in the City, what exactly is the reason for not removing the control over sugar? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" I think the question will be considered very soon, because besides the allotment which the Government of India have been giving us before, they have also allowed the factories to sell their surplus in the open market. A time will soon come when there will be no restrictions with regard to the quantity of sugar which a person can buy. When we reach that stage, even the present distribution system will have to be revised."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is it not a fact, Sir. that there is such a large quantity of sugar now available, particularly in the City, that the Government do not have sufficient godowns to stock it and if so, will they remove the existing controls as soon as possible? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Just at present we have been receiving sugar in large quantities; that does not mean that we may be able to release the sugar to a large extent. Though there may be temporary difficulties of storage, we have to keep these quantities for several months to come until we can have the next supply. With a view to give some relief in the matter of the storage problem, the Government are now issuing supplies for a month in the cities and towns. We are also allowing the districts to draw three months' supply from the stocks."

Bus service between Markapuram Railway station and the village of Markapuram, Kurnool.

* 1055 *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member Sri Kaleswara Rao is absent, the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI KALESWARA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether buses have been permitted by the Government to take passengers from the Markapuram Railway Station to the village of Markapuram (Kurnool district)?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Regional Transport Authority, Kurnool, has permitted one bus to ply on the route Markapuram Railway Station to Markapuram village in the Kurnool district from 12th August 1950."

Introduction of Hindi in certain high schools.

* 1056 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) in view of the answer given to question No. 680 on 6th February 1951, whether the Government have received the explanation called for from the fifteen high schools wherein Hindi has not been introduced; and if so, what it is;

(*b*) what action the Government have taken to enforce the introduction of Hindi in these high schools; and

(*c*) the number of pandits who have been discharged from service and whether they have been absorbed in new Basic schools?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) The Director of Public Instruction has called for the explanations from the managements of schools which have not appointed Hindi teachers. It has been ascertained that of the fifteen schools referred to, six schools have now appointed Hindi pandits. The explanations in respect of the other institutions are awaited. As a result of the instructions given, it is expected that the remaining schools will have Hindi pandits from the school year 1951–52."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know Sir, whether the Government have taken any steps to appoint the Hindi pandits who were removed from the schools which have not given their explanation? What action have the Government taken in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There were fifteen schools when I answered the last question. Subsequently, six of these schools have appointed Hindi pandits. Of the remaining nine schools, three are Government Muslim schools where there are Urdu pandits. There are only six other schools. I am not aware of any Hindi pandit having been sent away from the schools. They have not appointed Hindi pandits and they have been asked to appoint them now."

Misuse of service and materials in the Government Coach Building Factory, Chrompet.

* 1057 *Q.*—SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Works Manager and his colleagues in the Government Coach Building Factory at Chrompet are misusing the service and materials of the Government Workshop for their private contracts?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" There has been no misuse of the service and materials of the Factory by the Works Manager or his colleagues. Apparently the hon. Member is referring to the execution of certain urgent works in the Factory with the materials supplied by the Department but by labour employed on a contract basis. The works in question were executed under the authority of the Transport Commissioner on piece work system, prevailing in most of the workshops, with a view to expedite delivery."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" தயவு செய்து பதிலைத் தமிழில் சொல்லும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

THE HON. SRI. M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" ஒர்க்ஸ் மானேஜர் அல்லது அவருடைய சகாக்களால் பாக்டரியில் இருக்கின்ற